#### BROOKLYN LETTER.

The Opera Season in Two Great Cities -- Fashionable Display and This Continent.

Special Correspondence of the Star.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Dec. 22. Opera, that lovely offspring of European culture, is fast becoming acclimated here, and must, at a day not very remote, become a regularly do not hesitate to include in extravanaturalized American citizen. Having gance in dress. The scene in this respect once attained citizenship, the hope is that a progeny thoroughly American, New York when Mr. Mapleson's com-yet never reflecting discredit on their pany rendered Meyerbeer's "Dinorah," high-born lineage, will spring up so that the United States of the future can with justice lay claim to a native Wagner, light colored silks, many cut with short Meyerbeer, Verdi, Rossini, Auber, Mogart or Donizetti. Indeed, I believe the day is close at hand when this country will rejoice in a native composer as thoroughly a master as any of the noble names I have just mentioned. Why should we not attain to this excellence in music? There was a time when our evening silks and jewels in that audiliterature was pooh-poohed abroad, and even at home, but we found our Haw thorne, our Longfellow, our Emerson. progressing in literary achievements.

And to-day there are those who are still scene of beauty, youth and wenith before me I could not help picturing to myself And to-day there are those who cry out the changes that twenty years would prothat we have no pictorial art, not knowin their ignorance that in one department of painting-landscape-we are no whit behind Europe, but if anything slightly in advance. Powers, Crawford and Ward have also nobly pronounced for American genius in their sculptures, this is a statueless land. So that reaarts, and a fame perhaps as lofty as that which Germany, Italy or France pos-sesses. But where will the star rise? In proud and wealthy New In lovely and cultured In intellectual and artfostering Boston? In sedate and appreciative Philadelphia? In enterprising and cisco? Perhaps in none of these-rather in some retired American Nazareth, for genius claims a universe as its own, and its voice is as much respected when uttered in the lowly hamlet as in the boastful city. But the star will surely rise, and when it does we shall not have to wait for the Washington observatory to proclaim its presence.

It does not require a very severe stretch of memory to recall the time when we had no opera season here in New York and Brooklyn, and if we had none here, surely no one else on this continent had. Sedate, Puritanical New England, of course, could never be a starting point for opera in its full sense. And, excepting New England, twenty years ago what section of the United States but New York State could support the opera, pecuniarily and in respect of accommodations and stage appointments? Well, I know of none, and so speaking I do not wish to be understood as reflecting on any city, though to-day there are half a dozen cities in my mind and it will perhaps throw some light on result in the election of the Greenback that quite come up to the standard of the general results of the voting at the candidate for Governor. even ten years ago. It is within ten asked for a sheep's head. The butcher years that Madame Nilsson made the promptly put his hands on one, and was tour of the United States, and since then several operatic stars have visited these shores, but their coming and going were fitful, and until a year ago, when Mapleson plussed for the man of beef was non-fitful, and their coming and gone managers had generally fared ill, and the winnet ha' it, then," was the woman's as stable. But Mapleson opened the door, when the butcher, not willing to eyes of the public to the fact that an lose a customer for the want of a little could be successfully made a permanent

Now I would not underrate or throw discredit on the efforts of other managers cribed rather to the indifference of the public and hard times than to any

marked shortcomings on their own part. But last year Mapleson with Her Majesty's Opera Company gave us an opera season simon pure, and following up his success he has this year repeated his triumph with added force and to the increased satisfaction of the public. The two scenes of his triumph have been the Academy of Music, New York, and the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, and though for Brooklyn the season closed last Thursday with Donizetti's "Linda Di Chamouni" and for New York will close the coming Saturday, it is hoped, though Mr. Mapleson's plans have not been made public, that his splendid company will return in the spring. But while Mapleson made the season, its attractions have been multiplied by Emma Abbott's highly meritorious English Opera Troupe and later still by Maurice Gran's artistic French Opera Company, so that there has hardly been a night for three months pastshat opera was not on the boards either of Brooklyn or New York.

Now, what does an opera season mean nere, viewed from a fashionable standpoint? Well, in the first place, it means a readiness to part with fabulous sums of money for mere admissions. Here before me is the New York Academy of Music price-list, viz.: Parquet, \$3 50; balcony, other rows, \$3; private boxes, to admit four persons, \$16, and so on down to \$1 50 for general admission. Matinee prices range from \$12 down to 50 cents. general admission. Matinee prices range from \$12 down to 50 cents. At Haverly's Theater, Brooklyn, where the prices, as follows: Orchange the prices are follows: Orchange the prices, as follows: Orchange the prices, as follows: Orchange the prices are circle, reserved, \$150; and \$0 on down to 50 on the following the price to his butter. It can be done only on having it perfect in quality and appearance. When the color becomes light it is necessary to add a little of Weils, Richardson & Courty, a noise was heard in the court of the prices and all the of Weils, Richardson & Co.'s Perfected Butter Color to keep it up to the June standard. Many well-known butter recommend all their jumped the rail fence, and Jesse James stood in the presence of the man who had insulted his mother. At sight of Jesse the man turned as pale

usual difference for matinees. Now such charges seem exorbitant, but are they when the enormous size of either of these companies are considered? And by a company I mean several relays of artists, large chorus-s, and orchestras embracing any where from twenty five to sixty musicians. Then, coasider the expense attached to heating such a building as the Esthetic Influences -- The Past, Academy of Music, the richness and Pre ent and Future of Opera on multiplicity of the costumes required, and last, but not least, the extent and fine quality of the scenery and stage machinery required, the same opera being seldom presented more than twice, gen-

People who are willing to pay such enormous prices to secure seats of course that I witnessed last Thursday night in was simply dazzling. Four-fifths of the ladies were richly attired, fully at least one-half being in full evening dress, viz., sleeves; diamonds and laces in profusion. Their male escorts were dressed accordingly, appearing in swallow-tail coats, low-cut vests and black pantaloons, I noted also that gloves were a rarity among the gentlemen, and many ladies even dispensed with kids. I venture to say that there was at least \$250,000 in ence, and these figures I believe to be below the truth a great way. And the wearers were as lovely as their dresses, though as I sat there and surveyed the duce in that assemblage, and how seventy-five years hence every one in that noole and proud audience would be a tenant in very different raiment of the "windowless palace of rest."

Not a very comfortable thought, perhaps, but it does every one good now until it can no longer be charged that and then to pause, reflect and moralize, even while waiting for the curtain to rise on Mile, Marie Marimon, Signor Galsoning from analogy, and arguing from rise on Mile. Marie Marimon, Signor Gal-present glimmers of a coming dawn, I assi, and our own renowned country-believe that I am not out of the way in woman, Miss Annie Louise Cary, though predicting for music achievements as on the programme the plain, old-fashgreat as any won by the sister fine loned Miss assumed the French garb of Madamoiselle.

Well, I have not space or time to cr icise the production of "Dinorah;" indeed, if I were to attempt to include in criticism, it would only be to praise everything and everybody. Then, too, in order to even things, I would have to speak of the other artists of the commusically inclined Cincinnati, or in pany, Sienor Campanini, Mme. Emilie luxurious and seven-wonder San Fran-Ambre, Herr Behrens, and Mile. Alwina Valleria. Then, too, I might be expected to treat with like care such famous members of the French Opera Company as M. Capoul, Mile. Papla-Maria object of its endeavor, it must inevitably and Mile, Angele. Cincinnati will possibly have an opportunity to hear some of these people, and if so she will enjoy a treat.

To the wealthy the "season" has been a means of whiling away a good deal of spare time in a very satisfactory manner; to the poor it has proved a source of employment in demand for fine clothes and various services. Generally speaking it has been a means of æsthetic culture. Shopkeepers have of course profited by it, and the effect in a business sense is therefore good, though the polittoo much capital has become tied up or CRAS. baubles.

#### Canadian Politics. [Toronto Globe.]

requirements. But twenty years ago, last Dominion elections: On the day of even, we here had no opera season, in the the elections a woman went into a highest acceptation of the term, nor a butcher's shop in a Western town and giving it to the purchaser, when she inquired if it was a Liberal or a Torv public had little that they could regard reply, and she was making toward the door, when the butcher, not willing to opera season in the two great sister cities accommodation, called out to her: soon make it into a Tory for you." woman turned back, and the butcher at once split open the head, took out the to naturalize opera here. What they accomplished is a matter of history; what they failed to accomplish must be ascorbed rather to the indifference of the indifferenc

#### Three for Twen y-five. Detroit Free Press.

After a Griswold street barber had finished shaving a stranger vesterday the man asked what the charge was, and when told that it was 10 cents, he asked:

"Don't you have any wholesale rates? Wouldn't you give me three shaves for 25 cents?"

"Yes, I reckon I could do dat."

"Then go ahead and shave me twice more!" said the stranger, as he climbed back into the chair. The barber lathered, shaved, recombed his hair, and cried "Brush!" and the man

without a word. His face had a lobster color when he got through, but behanded out a quarter and said: "I don't know but it would have been better to take seven shaves for half a dollar, but this will do just now."

Reidsville (Va.) Times: Mr. Wormley, very wealthy man who lived in Chesterfield, Va., had two sons, Tom and Jack, both fond of playing poker, but Jack was very sharp at the game and Tom very flat. When the old man died he left Tom \$90,000 and Jack only \$1,000, but he explained at the foot of his will that \$1,000 was just stake enough for Jack to

PITH OF THE PRESSAI

Indianapolis News (Ind.): Erring Brother Key wins the first round in the fight against the lottery dealers. Keep him fresh and give him room.

Chicago News (Ind.): The Grant 'boom" is only tangled up among the Quaker legs under Philadelphia tables. t will emerge when the General starts

Chicago Journal (Rep.): The two great Democratic victories of 1879 are the killing of Captain Dixon in Yazoo, Miss., and the stealing of the Legislature of Maine.

Chicago Times (Ind.): The Democrats were tricked in 1876 and endured the outrage. The Republicans of Maine were tricked a few days ago, but won't endure it at all. That's the difference between the parties.

Mobile Register (Dem.): We call upon Senator Morgan to throw no stumbling block in the way of return to Constitutional money, so ardently longed for and so loudly demanded by all the business centers of the country.

Chicago Inter-Ocean (Rep.): They've settled it. That is, both the Cincinnati Commercial and Enquirer announce that Grant will be a candidate. And as they make the announcement their teeth rattle like the caving in of a gravel mine.

Milwaukee Sentinel (Rep.): Governor Garcelon should be immediately "mentioned" for the Democratic nomination, He is in every way worthy to succeed Cipher Tilden as the Bourbon candidate. He hasn't so big a bar'l, but more cheek and nerve.

Boston Traveller (Rep.): Don Cameron says his preference is for General Grant first, last and every time, and that in so saving he merely echoes the Pennsylvania Republican sentiment. Whoever is nominated will receive their cordial support, but they mean to have Grant.

Milwaukee Signal (Ind.): "Have not the Democrats as good a right to steal a State as the Republicans to steal the General Government?" - [Exchange. Perhaps; but both parties are thieves; and if they could be tied together like cats and hung across a line till they deyoured each other, the country would have a chance at honesty and fair dealng once more.

New York Times (Rep.): If fraud, 'first triumphant" in the Pine-tree State, is successful in clutching the present be at the price of turning the conscience of the State against the perpetrators and against the party that benefits by their acts. If such a performance shall fail to be visited with an overwhelmning condemnation at next year's election, then, indeed, will those who are inclined to despair of the Republic have some reason to show for their gloomy forebodings.

New York Sun (Iud. Dem.): The fight in Maine is not a fight between the Republicans and Democrats, but between the Republicans and all others, of whom ical economist will doubtless argue that the Greenbackers are a large majority. The Governor is a Democrat, or more gone to waste in rich toilets and costly properly a Fusionist, but the majority of the Council which did the counting are Greenbackers, and if the men to whom certificates have been issued as members The following story is told for a fact, of the Legislature keep their seats it will

man Trumbull is the first prominent would lie dormantly quiet all night. Committee, he opposed the adoption of a resolution disapproving the crime, saying that the Democrats were merely paying the Republicans back in their own coin for the fraud of 1876, and that there was nothing wrong in the Maine business anyway. There is something inharmonious in this defense. The Judge has been charging fraud upon the Republican party with great vehemence since 1876. Nobody doubts his sincerity in the matter; yet he says that the Democrats are paying back in the same coin, but are doing no wrong. Does he mean that fraud is no wrong when it is committed by the Democratic party? Or does he mean that there was no wrong in the alleged Republican fraud in 1876? If he means the latter, what has he been cry-ing aloud about during the past three years?

### JESSIE JAMES, OUTLAW.

An Instance Where the Desperado was Merciful-An Affecting Scene, (Kansas City Times. |

Detective Pinkerton has given the James boys the name of being bloodthirsty wretches, who could never be moved from their purpose of killing when once they made up their minds. A gentleman from Clay County, however, reseated himself and took a third shave related one instance to a Kansas City re porter the other night which serves to show that there was at one time at least a tender spot in the heart of Jesse. The story, as told by the gentleman, is that a few years ago a man, together with his family, lived on a portion of Mrs. Samuels' farm. He rented so many acres from the old lady, and the renter and Mrs. Samuels fattened a beef in copart-

nership. When the beef was killed they fell out over a division of the spoils. Each claimed the bide and tallow. The dispute waxed warm, until the man, in a heat of passion, said to Mrs. Samuels, "You are an old liar." The old lady, looking straight at him, said, "I shall tell Jesse about this," and turning on her heel, went into the house. The next

as death, and looked as if he were about to sink into the earth.

Riding close to him Jesse said: "Didn't you know that I would kill you for the language you used toward my mother? If you have anything to say do it quickly, for you have only a short time to live.' Just at this time the wife of the apparently doomed man came screaming out of the house, begging Jessie not to kill her husband. With a stern command of "Get back in the house, Madam, quick," the woman went in weeping bitterly, and with strained nerves she awaited the dead crack of Jesse's revolver which would make her a widow. Turning to the trembling man before him, Jesse

Dropping down on his knees in the middle of the public read, the man offered up such a prayer to God as was never heard in the old county of Clay The gentleman, an unwilling spectator to the affair, said be never heard such a touching and beautiful prayer in his life. With the tears streaming down his face, the man beseeched the Almighty to receive his soul and take care of his chiliren and wife, soon to be without a father and husband. Mr. Chancellor, during the prayer, glanced several times at Jesse, who, with drawn pistol, sat sternly on his horse looking at the sup-

plicant before him.

said: "Get down on your knees and ask

forgiveness for your sins before I kill

Before the prayer was concluded the stern lines upon Jesse's face seemed to relax from their wonted screnity, and hope dawned upon the mind of the gentleman that Jesse would relent from his stern purpose. At the conclusion of the prayer the man closed his eyes and awaited the expected shot that would send him into eternity. But he was not destined to die. The words of suppliance had touched the better chords Jesse's heart, and the demon within him was subdued. Addressing the still kneeling man he said: "I ought to kill you, but for the sake of your wife and children I will spare your life. I will give you six hours to get out of this country. Go quick, before I change my mind."

The reprieved man arose to his feet and poured out such a volume of thankful gratitude that the heart of the gentleman present was melted into tears, and he wept like a child. Jesse, ap parently stern and unmoved, listened unil he was through, and then, motioning him away, gathered up the lines of his bridle and disappeared in the field. The man hastened into his house, and the joyful meeting with his wife on the hreshold of the door was an occasion never to be forgotten.

In less than the time given by Jesse to leave, the man, his family and their effects were loaded into wagons and going in the direction of more friendly shores.

#### A Reporter's Luck. [Pittsburg Paper.]

During an excursion from this city to Niagara Falls, and while at Cleveland, an incident occurred which will never be forgotten by those who heard it. The Kennard House, in that city, was crowded with guests, when an eccentric and witty druggist of Smithfield street appeared late at night at the hotel office and demanded a bed. The clerk replied that there were only two vacant beds in the house-one, wherein was quartered a Pittsburg morning-newspaper man, and the other room wherein was a Pittsburg evening-newspaper man, who were with the excursion. "To tell the truth, they are both pretty drunk; so you may take your choice as to which room you will sleep in."

The druggist said that on general principles he would take his chances with the New York Tribune (Rep.): Judge Ly- would doubtless be so drunk that he evening newspaper journalist Democratic leader to make a public de- went to bed and was soon sound asleep. fense of the Maine theft. At a recent The journalist, however, awakened about 12 o'clock, and thinking it a long time between drinks, dressed him-elf, unconsciously, in the druggist's clothes, and sallied out to make a night of it. Ever and anon he muttered, as he treated all present, "Fuuniest thing I ever heard of! When I went to bed last night I only had 25 cents to my name, and now I've got over \$100 (showing a corpulent roll of bills); and I'm bound to spend every cent of it before morn-

## Mr. Gladstone's Week's Work, [London Times.]

There is one respect in which no one can refuse a tribute of admiration to Mr. Gladstone's performances in Scotland. Having regard to his age, to the weather, to the nature of his audiences, and to the length of his speeches, his present rhetorical campaign must certainly be regarded as one of the most extraordinary physical feats on record-perhaps the most extraordinary. Last week he delivered four speeches, occupying about six columns each, before crowded assemblies and the last was at least as vigorous as the first. On Monday he traveled from Edinburg through Dunfermline, Perth and Dunkeld to Aberfeldy; and at each stage of his journey, during the stray half hours or five minutes which the train allowed him, he was as ready to make a new speech as if he had made none before. The weather seems to be as cold in Scotland as it is here, and most men of seventy would hesitate before so much es putting their heads out of window on Scotch journey. Mr. Gladstone, too, has more work before him. He is to-day to deliver a political speech, and it is not until Saturday that he will return to comparative rest at Hawarden. Englishmen and Scotchmen can appreciate such display of endurance and energy. The intellectual force and rhetorical vivacity displayed are not less remarkable, and men of all parties will agree that Mr. Gladstone has proved himself a more wonderful personage than ever.

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SEVERE RHEUMATISM.

SEVERE RMEUMATISM.

State of New Jersey, Bergen County, Township of Hackenssek, st.

Thomas Johnson, of said township, being duly sworn, doth depose and say, that he has been severely afficted with rheumatism for above a year, and was so bad that he could scarcely walk, being bent aimost double, and was utterly unable to do any work. Having heard of the wonderful cures made by Dr. Tobias' Venetian Limiment, he was induced to try it, and after using it a short time, was able to go to work again, after being unable to do anything for nearly a year.

Sworn to before me.

Sworn to before me.
J. H. Bainck Earloff, Justice of the Peace.

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PR. Tontas—I write to inform you that the child of a friend of mine was cured of croup, alter being given up to die by three physicians. One hour after your Venetian Liniment was used it was out of danger. I hope you will publish this, so that mothers may know they have a remedy for this terrible complaint. I lost a child by croup previous to hearing of your Liniment, but now never feel alarmed, as I have also used it for pains sore throat, etc., and always found it to cure.

JEREMIAH CASEY,

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GREAT CURE OF RHEUMATISM. This is to certify that I had the rheumstism is my hip so I could not walk without my cruisb, and after using Dr. Tobias Venetian Liniment a short time. I was entirely relieved, and candidly believe it a most certain cure for rheumatism, as I have tried many hims without any good, and after using the s Venetian Liniment for only a far days I was well.

[William of the country of

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ASTHMA.

This is to certify that I have had the Asthma since 1841, and have been treated by many physicians without relief. Your Venetian Liniment has made a perfect cure.

WM. Y. TOWNSEND,
Port Richmond, Staten Island.

TO THE LADIES.

Certificate of the Surgeon of the Royal Mail Steamer America.

This is to certify that I have used and recommended Dr. Tobias' Venetian Liniment, and have found it useful in a variety of cases. It also cires unfailing relief from the apnoyance and irritation consequent on mosquito bices, and prevents a mark being left.

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The public appreciate it, as during the a 3,141 bottles were sold in one day, as the ing oath will show: ing oath will show:

OATH.

This is to certify that I sold, on the 28th inst., three thousand one hundred and forty-one (3,141) bottles of my Venetian Liniment.

S. I. TOBIAS.

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 28th de of October, 1872 D. S. HART,
Commissioner of Deeds. FROM COL. D. McDANIEL. Owner of Some of the Fastest Run-ning Horses in the World.

This is to certify that I have used Dr. Tobias' Horse Venetian Liniment and Derty Condition Powders, on my race-horses, and found them give perfect satisfaction. In fact, they have never falled to cure any silment for which they were used; the Liniment, when rubbed in by the hand, never blisters or takes the hair off; it has more penetrative qualities than any other I have tried, which I suppose is the secret of its wonderful success in curing sprains. The ingredients from which the Derty Powders are made have been made known to me by Dr. Tobias; they are perfectly harmless.

D. McDANEL

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"OBSERVATIONS ON

# NASAL CATARRH

Catarrhal Deafness:" By A. N. WILLIAMSON, M. D., late Clinical Physician in the Medical Department of the Uni-

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versity of New York. Pamphies Copies mailed.

The two opinions hereto appended speak for themselves. Professor Samuel D. Gross, of Philadelphia, author of "Gross' System of Surgery," and the soknowledged head of the profession in this coun-

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